

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Complete Listing of the Claims

1. (Cancelled) ~~A baton carrier adapted to hold an expandable baton in both extended and retracted positions, the baton carrier comprising: a baton holder having a substantially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber; and an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the baton holder, and adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt.~~
2. (Cancelled) ~~The baton carrier of claim 1 further comprising a detent mechanism interposed between the attachment assembly and the baton holder.~~
3. (Currently Amended) ~~The baton carrier of claim 2, wherein the detent mechanism comprises~~ A baton carrier adapted to hold a baton, the baton carrier comprising: a baton holder having an at least partially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber and a back wall; an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the baton holder, and adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt, a detent mechanism interposed between the attachment assembly and the baton holder and comprising a recess carrying structure having radially arranged a radial arrangement of a plurality of detent recesses facing a plurality of similar radially arranged protuberances on a protuberance structure, such that substantial engagement of the recesses with the protuberances defines one of a predetermined number of operating positions for the attachment assembly with respect to the baton holder and a spring mechanism associated with the detent mechanism for urging the protuberances toward the detent recesses releasably to lock the baton holder in one position on the baton carrier while permitting relative movement between the recess carrying structure and the protuberance structure from one releasably locked position to another releasably locked position.
4. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 3, wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a back cover assembly which defines said recess carrying structure and which is attached to the baton holder, and wherein the back cover assembly includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses.

5. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 4, 3, wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly which defines said protuberance structure, and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the back cover assembly accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents detent recesses and protuberances into facing engagement.

6. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 5, ~~further including~~ wherein said spring mechanism includes, at least in part, a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer in contact with the back cover assembly.

7. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 6, further comprising a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and back cover assembly in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents detent recesses and protuberances.

8. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 4, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to the baton holder, at least in part, through a tab and slot mechanism, with the tab integrally formed in the back cover assembly and the slot integrally formed in the baton holder.

9. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 8, 4, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to ~~a rectangular extension portion~~ said back wall of the baton holder, ~~integrally formed therein~~.

10. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 4, 3, wherein each of the plurality of detent recesses is substantially trapezoidal in cross-section, sides defining entry angles between 25 and 45 degrees.

11. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 4, 3, wherein the entry angles are 35 degrees.

12. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 9, 3, wherein the ~~substantially cylindrical interior~~ back wall includes has an elongated opening therein, the opening being approximately centrally disposed within the ~~rectangular extension portion~~ back wall of the baton holder.

13. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 12, further comprising a baton securing element extending into the elongated opening.

14. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 42, 13, wherein the baton securing element is a spring member having a portion thereof extending from said baton carrier into said elongated opening, with at least a part of the spring member being retained in position between the a back cover assembly for the baton holder and the ~~rectangular extension portion~~ back wall of the baton holder. ~~position between the back cover assembly rectangular extension portion of the baton holder~~

15. (Currently Amended) The A baton carrier of claim 1, adapted to hold a baton, the baton carrier comprising: a baton holder having an at least partially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber; and an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the baton holder, adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt and including wherein the attachment assembly includes a loop portion having an outer periphery and through which a belt passes, the loop portion having an insert that is adjustable in position to accommodate different belt widths and a structure and mechanism within the outer periphery of said loop portion for releasably locking said insert in place without any of said structure and mechanism extending beyond the outer periphery of said loop portion.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The baton carrier of claim 15, wherein~~ A baton carrier adapted to hold an expandable baton in both extended and retracted positions, the baton carrier comprising: a baton holder having an at least partially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber; and an attachment assembly rotatably

coupled to the baton holder, adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt and including a loop portion through which a belt passes, the loop portion having an insert that is adjustable in position to accommodate different belt widths and having the loop portion includes at least one elongated slot, and wherein at least one screw extends through the slot and into the insert, such that the insert is fixed in position when the screw is tightened, and the insert is movable when the screw is loosened.

17. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 16, wherein the insert includes an inner surface, proximate the belt, and the inner surface includes a substantially arcuate region adapted to engage an interior portion of the belt.

18. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 3 wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a fairing defining said recess carrying structure, the fairing integrally formed in and extending outwardly from the baton holder, and wherein the fairing includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses.

19. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 18, wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly which defines said protuberance structure and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the fairing accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the protuberances and detent recesses into facing engagement

20. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 19, further including a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer being in contact with an interior wall of the fairing and forming at least part of said spring mechanism.

21. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 20, further comprising a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and baton

holder in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents detent recesses and protuberances.

22. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 21, wherein the attachment assembly includes a loop portion through which a belt passes, the loop portion adapted to accept one of a plurality of inserts of varying sizes to accommodate different belt widths.

23. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 23, wherein a selected one of the plurality of inserts is removably secured in position by a mating tab and slot arrangement.

24. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 23, wherein at least one slot is provided in the loop portion of the attachment assembly, and the selected insert includes at least one tab, generally triangular in configuration, extending outwardly therefrom.

25. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 24, wherein the generally triangular tab makes an acute angle within outer surface of the insert at a first departure end, and makes a right angle with an outer surface of the insert at a second departure end.

26. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 25, wherein the insert includes an inner surface, proximate the belt, and the inner surface includes a substantially arcuate region adapted to engage an interior portion of the belt.

27. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 26, wherein the first departure end of the tab is distal from the inner surface of the insert, while the second departure end is proximate the inner surface, such that the insert is moved away from the belt, within the loop portion, to engage in insert and secure the insert in position.

28. (Currently Amended) A baton carrier adapted to hold ~~an expandable~~ a baton ~~in both extended and retracted positions~~, the baton carrier comprising:
a baton holder having ~~a substantially~~ an at least partially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber;

an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the baton holder, and adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt;
a back cover assembly for said baton holder; and
a detent mechanism interposed between the attachment assembly and said back cover assembly of the baton holder, ~~wherein the detent mechanism comprises said~~
back cover having a radial arrangement of a radially arranged plurality of detent recesses facing a plurality of similar radially arranged protuberances on said attachment assembly, such that substantial engagement of the detent recesses with the protuberances defines one of a predetermined number of operating positions for the attachment assembly with respect to the baton holder and a spring arranged to bear against one of said back cover assembly or said attachment assembly for urging said protuberances toward said detent recesses releasably to lock the baton holder in one position on the baton carrier while permitting relative movement between said back cover assembly and said attachment assembly from one releasably locked position to another releasably locked position.

29. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 28, ~~wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a back cover assembly attached to the baton holder, and wherein the back cover assembly includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses.~~

30. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 29, ~~wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly, and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the back cover assembly accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents~~
detent recesses and protuberances into facing engagement.

31. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 30, ~~further including a wherein~~
said spring includes a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer being in contact with the back cover assembly.

32. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 31, further comprising a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and back cover assembly in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents detent recesses and protuberances.

33. (Original) The baton carrier of claim 29, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to the baton holder, at least in part, through a tab and slot mechanism, with the tab integrally formed in the back cover assembly and the slot integrally formed in the baton holder.

34. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 28, wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a fairing, the fairing integrally formed in and extending outwardly from the baton holder, and wherein the fairing includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed arranged plurality of detent recesses.

35. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim 34, ~~wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly, and~~ wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the fairing accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents detent recesses and protuberances into facing engagement.

~~37~~ 36. (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim ~~36~~ 35, further comprising a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and baton holder in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents and protuberances.

~~38. 37.~~ (Currently Amended) The baton carrier of claim ~~37~~, 36, wherein the attachment assembly includes a loop portion through which a belt passes, the loop portion adapted to accept one of a plurality of inserts of varying sizes to accommodate different belt widths.

38,

~~39.~~ (Cancelled) A baton carrier adapted to hold an expandable baton in both extended and retracted positions, the baton carrier comprising:
a baton holder having a substantially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber;
an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the baton holder, and adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt; and
a detent mechanism interposed between the attachment assembly and the baton holder, the detent mechanism including:
_____ a radially arranged plurality of detent recesses facing a plurality of similar radially arranged protuberances, such that substantial engagement of the recesses with the protuberances defines one of a predetermined number of operating positions for the attachment assembly with respect to the baton holder;
_____ wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a back cover assembly attached to the baton holder, and wherein the back cover assembly includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses; and
_____ wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly, and wherein the attachment assembly, and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the back cover assembly accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents and protuberances into facing engagement.

39

~~40.~~ (Cancelled) The baton carrier of claim ~~39~~, further comprising:
a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer in contact with the back cover assembly; and
a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment

assembly and back cover assembly in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents and protuberances.

40.
~~41.~~ (Cancelled) The baton carrier of claim 30, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to the baton holder, at least in part, through a tab and slot mechanism, with the tab integrally formed in the back cover assembly and the slot integrally formed in the baton holder.

41.
~~42.~~ (Cancelled) The baton carrier of claim 41, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to a rectangular extension portion of the baton holder, integrally formed therein.

42.
~~43.~~ (Non-elected and Cancelled) A baton carrier adapted to hold an expandable baton in both extended and retracted positions, the baton carrier comprising:
a baton holder having a substantially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber;
an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the baton holder, and adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt; and
a detent mechanism interposed between the attachment assembly and the baton holder, the detent mechanism including:
a radially arranged plurality of detent recesses facing a plurality of similar radially arranged protuberances, such that substantial engagement of the recesses with the protuberances defines one of a predetermined number of operating positions for the attachment assembly with respect to the baton holder;
wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a fairing, the fairing integrally formed in and extending outwardly from the baton holder, and wherein the fairing includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses; and
wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly, and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the fairing accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents and protuberances into facing engagement.

43.

~~44.~~ (Non-elected and Cancelled) The baton carrier of claim 43, further comprising:
a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the
spring washer in contact with an interior wall of the fairing; and
a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs
circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener
applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment
assembly and baton holder in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer
provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents and
protuberances.

44.

~~45.~~ (Non-elected and Cancelled) The baton carrier of claim 43, wherein the
attachment assembly includes a loop portion through which a belt passes, the loop
portion adapted to accept one of a plurality of inserts of varying sizes to
accommodate different belt widths.

45.

~~46.~~ (Non-elected and cancelled) The baton carrier of claim 45, wherein a selected
one of the plurality of inserts is removably secured in position by a mating tab and
slot arrangement.

46.

~~47.~~ (New) The baton carrier of claim 3 including a spring member mounted at one
end to or connected at one end to said baton carrier and having at least a portion
thereof which extends through an opening in said at least partially cylindrical wall
of said baton carrier into said interior chamber for engaging and holding in place a
baton received in said interior chamber.

47.

~~48.~~ (New) The baton carrier of claim 3 wherein said spring mechanism includes at
least one spring washer which bears against said recess carrying structure.

48.

~~49.~~ (New) The baton carrier of claim 3 including a back cover for said baton
holder, said back cover defining said recess carrying structure and having an
opening there-through, said detent recesses being radially arranged around said
opening, said attachment assembly defining said protuberance structure and
including a post which extends through said opening and said spring mechanism.

includes at least one spring-wave washer located between said baton holder and said back cover and received over said post.

^{49.}
~~50.~~ (New) A baton carrier adapted to hold a baton, said baton carrier comprising: a baton holder having an at least partially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber and a back wall; an attachment assembly coupled to said back wall of said baton holder and adapted to removably attach said baton carrier to a belt and including a loop portion through which a belt passes, and a spring member extending in cantilever fashion from said baton carrier and having at least a portion thereof extending through an opening in said back wall of said baton holder and into said interior chamber.

^{50.} ^{49.}
~~51.~~ (New) The baton carrier of claim ~~50~~ wherein said opening therein, said elongate opening is elongate and is approximately centrally disposed within said back wall of said baton holder and at least a portion of said spring member extends through said elongate opening for engaging and releasably securing a baton in said interior chamber.

^{51.} ^{49.}
~~52.~~ (New) The baton carrier of claim ~~50~~ wherein said portion of said spring member which extends into said interior chamber is arranged and positioned to engage and releasably hold in place, a baton received in said interior chamber.

^{52.} ^{49.}
~~53.~~ (New) The baton carrier of claim ~~50~~ wherein said spring member is a bent spring that is fixed at one end to said baton carrier and which extends through said opening in said back wall of said baton holder into said interior chamber for engaging and releasably securing a baton received in said interior chamber of said baton holder.

^{53.} ^{52.}
~~54.~~ (New) The baton carrier of claim ~~53~~ wherein a central offset portion of said bent spring extends through said opening in said back wall for releasably securing a baton in said interior chamber.